

Story 1054 (Transcribed from tape by Tuncer Gülensoy; ATON does not have tape.) Narrator: Münevver Varlıgan
Location: Beyobası village, Köyceğiz kaza, Muğla Province

Date: 1975

The Boy Who Cried "Wolf!"¹

Once there was a shepherd ^{ALL} who was a liar. He took flock of sheep to the village pasture every day and brought them home every evening. One day after he had taken the sheep to the pasture, he began to shout, "Help! A wolf has eaten a lamb! Come and help me!"

A number of people in the village took their guns other weapons and rushed to the pasture. When they got there, however, they could not see any wolf or any evidence that a lamb had been eaten. The whole flock was grazing quietly, and the shepherd looked quite happy. The villagers asked the shepherd, "Why did you shout so? Why did you say that a wolf had eaten one of the lambs?" When the shepherd only laughed at these questions, the villagers went home angry at him.

Two days later the same thing happened. The shepherd shouted, "Help! A wolf has eaten a lamb! Come and help me!"

¹This is obviously an analogue of the Aesop fable of the same title. That does not necessarily mean that this tale was taken from Aesop or even influenced by Aesop. Many of the fables we call Aesopian have been in the oral tradition for ages.

Story 1054

Nobody paid attention to him this time, and nobody to the pasture. This time, however, a wolf really attacked the flock and eaten a lamb. It ate not only a lamb but also most of the sheep and finally even the shepherd himself.

When evening came, the shepherd did not return to the village with the flock. When the villagers went to the pasture in search of them, they found that the herd and most of the sheep had been devoured.